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PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. WEST/0006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
W. Dan Hord, III, et al.

Serial No.: 10/681,629

Confirmation No.: 6109

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: ACETYLENE CYLINDER MANIFOLD ASSEMBLY

§ Group Art Unit: 3751

§ Examiner: Timothy Lewis Maust

§ Customer No.: 26,290

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on.
28 Feb, 2006
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Dear Sir:

Please ENTER APPEAL FOR PURPOSES 3/14/06 TLM

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 29, 2005

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 29, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 29, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEST/0006/WCG for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.